GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2347
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
DECLARATION OF GANGA AS NATIONAL RIVER
ARUN KUMAR

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring a legislation to ban the dumping of any type of untreated sewage/effluents/industrial waste in Holy River Ganga;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to declare Ganga as National River; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) No, Sir. The existing legislations namely the Water (Prevention and Control ofPollution) Act, 1974 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 already provide a ban on the discharge of any type of untreated sewage/effluents/industrial waste in water bodies including river Ganga.

(c) & (d) Ganga is one of the important rivers amongst the major rivers of the country. As such, there is no proposal to declare it as a National river.